Suddenly
from heaven
there came a sound
like the rush of a violent
wind, and it filled
the entire house
where they were sitting
Acts 2:2

Soundings

News and Information from the
Northwest Washington Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Volume 25 Number 7 *August 2008*

Immanuel Hits Another Habitat Home Run

By Kirsten Griffin, member of Immanuel Lutheran in Seattle

PROCESSED
JUL 30 2008
GTU LIBRARY

On May 31 several volunteers from Immanuel Lutheran Church in Seattle joined forces with other Habitat for Humanity and AmeriCorps volunteers to help clean up and restore an old Habitat house to make it ready for a new Habitat family who will be calling this house "home" beginning in June.

Located in Seattle, in a neighborhood just east of Seattle University, this particular home is part of a Habitat success story. The renovation of the home comes at a time when the previous residents, also a Habitat family, had been offered new employment opportunities that allowed them to move into a slightly larger home and achieve even further independence.

Mary Lou Pederson helping to fix up the house for another family.

Habitat was able to buy the property back and once the renovations were complete another family was offered that same wonderful Habitat "hand up" to a clean, safe and affordable place to call home. This home is also one of 13 "Thrivent Builds with Habitat for

continued on page 8

In This Issue--Highlights

Page 2 ..... Draft Social Statement
Page 3 ..... A Word from The Bishop
Page 5 ..... Events
Page 6 ..... Bible Book of Faith Resources
Page 7 - 9 ..... Events and Workshops
Page 11 ..... News and Notes
Page 12-13 .... Within Our Family
Page 14 ..... Synod Transitions
Page 15 ..... Synod Mobility

Draft Social Statement on Human Sexuality

The Task Force for ELCA Studies on Sexuality released the *Draft Social Statement on Human Sexuality* on March 13 for study and response. Responses to the draft social statement are due by Nov. 1, 2008.

Most of the ELCA's 65 synods plan to host hearings between March and November as an opportunity to listen to feedback on the draft statement. Our synod will host a joint hearing with Southwestern Washington Synod on Saturday, Sept. 6, at Grace Lutheran in Des Moines. At least one representative of the task force is to attend each hearing. You are also encouraged to submit your responses directly to the task force. (http://archive.elca.org/cgi-bin/rws/rws3.pl?FORM=ResponseForm.)

Based on the responses from the church, the task force will revise and prepare a proposed social statement, which is due in early 2009. The proposed social statement will be given to the ELCA Church Council for its consideration and with a request to place the document on the agenda of the 2009 ELCA Churchwide Assembly for action. For more information about the call to study and dialogue about human sexuality

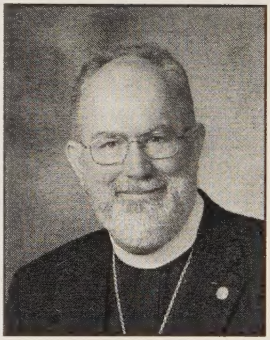
Soundings *published monthly (with one combined issue for May/June) by the Northwest Washington Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,*
5519 Phinney Ave. N, Seattle, WA 98103-5829.
206-783-9292 or 1-800-244-6997 (Wash. State); Fax: 206-783-9833.
Email: office@lutheransnw.org. Website: www.lutheransnw.org.

Synod Office Staff:
The Rev. Wm Chris Boerger, Bishop—boerger@lutheransnw.org
The Rev. Jan Nesse, Assistant to the Bishop—nesse@lutheransnw.org
Jim Goeben, Webmaster—jim@lutheransnw.org
Elaine Harrison, Synod Relations Administrator—elaine@lutheransnw.org
Margit Peiffle, Synod Communications Administrator—margit@lutheransnw.org
Margaret Spatafore, Synod Office Administrator—margaret@lutheransnw.org
General Office Information—office@lutheransnw.org

Deadline for the September 2008 issue of Soundings *and* The Spirit *is Wednesday, July 30. Send information to: Margit Peiffle, 21721 88th Ave. NE, Arlington, WA 98223; margit@lutheransnw.org; 425-299-6667; fax 360-435-5955.*

Permission is granted for congregations to copy Soundings *and* The Spirit. *Newsletters are available to download at www.lutheransnw.org/News&Info.*

A Word From The Bishop



The Reverend
Wm Chris Boerger

It should not come as a surprise for us to hear again that we are living in times of transition and change. It is a time when we must speak the faith that is in us to give us hope in the face of all of these structures and processes that we thought were stable. The role of the church in our world has changed. The way we worship is changing regularly. The function of congregations has become more like what we expected of synods and churchwide just 20 years ago.

This is to introduce the fact that we are changing again. The Rev. Stephen Bouman, Executive Director of the Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission Unit (EOCM), has proposed a major restructuring in how the unit staff is configured. This will affect us. In the past, our region has been served by deployed staff from the unit and its predecessors who worked out of the Region 1 office. Currently the Rev. Red Burchfield and the Rev. Phil Reitz are deployed from EOCM to serve us and other synods in the region.

In the near future (next year to 18 months out) this will change. EOCM is moving to fund one full time assistant to the bishop in each of our synods. Thus, the person doing this outreach and stewardship work is not going to be part-time in each of four or more synods, but will be directly working with us as part of the synod staff. I first heard of this proposal late in April. I must confess that the opportunities for outreach and stewardship fit the direction I see for this synod and my response has been increasing excitement over the possibilities.

This will be a significant change. The regional office will be affected by this change. Faithful servants of Christ will now be listening for God's call to new service. What the Region 1 office will look like is still unknown. For Northwest Washington, we will be renewing our work in starting new congregations, supporting struggling congregations and supporting the stewardship of time, talent and treasure. But it will mean change.

We will need to look at how we house our synod staff. Our current office space does not have room for an additional assistant. So, the Synod Council will be looking at our office space requirements in the coming months. We do not know what all of this will look like in the future. We do not know if there will be any significant change in the office, but we need to ask the question.

I am excited about the possibilities. There is much that is unknown about the timing and the implementation of this change. It is like the rest of our lives today. We are a people in transition. We pray that we will be faithful with the gifts given to us.

Global Mission Gatherings

Ken Halvorson, Chair
NW Washington Synod
Global Mission Committee
halvorson7@verizon.net

The Synod's Global Mission Committee plans to meet periodically with congregational based Global Mission Advocates. There are currently 35 advocates representing 34 congregations in our synod.

The gatherings will give advocates an opportunity to exchange ideas, pray together and to encourage one another and their work of lifting up the importance of Global Mission before their congregation.

If you would like to have more information about what an advocate can do to help promote global mission in your congregation, please contact Ken Halvorson, chair. The upcoming Global Mission Advocates will gather at:

- Saturday, August 23, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Salem Lutheran Church, 2529 N. Laventure Rd, Mount Vernon.
- Saturday, September 13, from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, 10021 NE 124th, Kirkland.

Health and Hope Grant Proposals

Wheat Ridge Ministries invites and encourages Lutheran congregations to submit applications from Monday, Sept. 1, 2008 through Friday, Oct. 31, 2008 for its Congregation Health and Hope Grant program. In 2007, 19 grants were awarded totaling $35,119.

Congregations interested in applying for a Wheat Ridge Congregation Health and Hope Grant can visit the Wheat Ridge website (www.wheatridge.org) to download a complete list of guidelines as well as the proposal format. For questions, contact 1-800-762-6748.

Send Us Names

It's that time of year to start connecting your graduating high school seniors with Lutheran Campus Ministry.

Please take a moment to fill out the referral form you received in the mail from Campus Ministry, and also to talk with your students about Lutheran Campus Ministry (you can access the form at: http://uwcrossroads.com/referral.pdf). Please refer **all** college bound students, even if they are not attending the UW or Western. We'll forward your referrals to each Lutheran Campus Ministry site or Partnership Congregation for you. Send the information to: Rev. Scott Postlewait, UW Lutheran Campus Ministry, 4525 19th Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98105; email to chscott@drizzle.com. Thanks so much for your support and for your care of young adults in your congregation.

News From Churchwide

Editor's Note: This is an article taken from two ELCA press releases.

The *All Hands On Deck* press release can be read at: http://archive.elca.org/ScriptLib/CO/ELCA_News/encArticleList.asp?article=3902

The *letter to the Presidential Candidates* can be viewed at: http://archive.elca.org/bishop/messages/candidatesletter.html

All Hands On Deck

Recovery efforts in the flood-ravaged Midwest will require an "all hands on deck" approach, according to the Rev. Kevin A. Massey, director, Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR). Every program and project Lutherans have will be needed given the extent of flood damage there, he said. LDR is a collaborative ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

Massey said the number of flood-affected towns in these states "is overwhelming. Simply realizing the number of households that are coping with flooding is astonishing." According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, an estimated 25,000 homes in Iowa were damaged and/or destroyed.

LDR's long-term disaster response plan in the Midwest "will take some time to design, but it will certainly include the coordination of volunteers and the provision of resources like case management," said Massey. Flood-affected communities have not yet prepared themselves to host outside volunteers at this time, he said. LDR is in conversation with faith-based organizations and partners to secure housing for visiting volunteer groups.

Lutherans Write To Presidential Candidates

Stating that Lutherans have a long history and significant experience related to health and human services, relief and development, and refugee protection and immigration, four Lutheran leaders wrote to the major political party candidates for U.S. President. In their letter the leaders, including the Rev. Mark S. Hanson, presiding bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), suggested specific policy priorities and urged presidential leadership on a series of topics.

The six-page letter, released July 8, was delivered recently to the presidential campaigns of U.S. Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., and U.S. Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill. Joining Hanson in signing the letter were Ralston H. Deffenbaugh Jr., president, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service; the Rev. John A. Nunes, president, Lutheran World Relief; and Jill A. Schumann, president and chief executive officer, Lutheran Services in America. All but Hanson are based in Baltimore.

The letter addresses economic insecurity and poverty; global warming and energy policy; fair and humane immigration and refugee policy; international poverty, development and disease; and conflict resolution and peace building. The Lutheran leaders called on whoever is elected to engage and act on a number of policy points related to these topics.

Order Form

Bible Book of Faith Resource Book

Editor's Note:
Please copy this page or remove it from the newsletter and mail it to: Roger Anderson , 911 9th Street, Mukilteo, WA 98275. Thank you.

The Lay Theological Education Task Force is offering all congregations in the Northwest Washington Synod resources promoting use and knowledge of the Bible. These Augsburg Fortress resources complement the Book of Faith Initiative and are available at no cost to you. We only ask that your congregation agree to participate in the Bible Book of Faith Initiative. It is understood that by placing this order, your congregation agrees to participate in the Bible Book of Faith initiative. (For more information read the resolution passed at the recent synod assembly at www.lutheransnw.org/assembly/2008/assembly/J.pdf; or visit www.elca.org/What-We-Believe/The-Bible/Book-of-Faith.aspx.)

Name of Congregation_____
Location of Congregation_____
Phone_____ E-mail_____
Leader or Contact Person_____
Address_____
Phone_____ E-mail_____

Please indicate which of these titles are needed in your congregation:

___John Drane—*Introducing the Bible* (with CD)

___Don Benjamin—*The Old Testament Story: An Introduction* (with CD)

___Gerd Theissen—*Fortress Introduction to the New Testament*

___Terrance E. Fretheim—*About the Bible: Short Answers to Big Questions*

___Craig R. Koester—*Beginner's Guide to Reading the Bible*

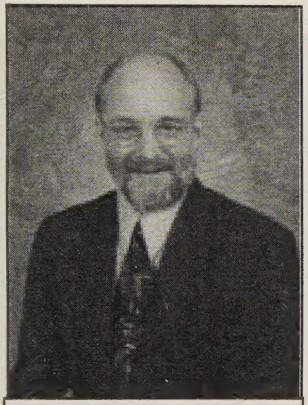
___Rolf E. Aaseng—*A Beginner's Guide to Studying the Bible*

___Diane L. Jacobson & Robt. Kysar—*A Beginner's Guide to the Book of Books*

___Gerd Theissen—*The Bible and Contemporary Culture*

The hope is that all churches in the Northwest Washington Synod will use and make available these resources in their congregations. To order, please return this form by Tuesday, Sept. 30, to Roger Anderson, 911 9th St. Mukilteo, WA 98275. For questions email rwander48@comcast.net

Giving to God: The Bible's Good News About Living a Generous Life



Mark Allan Powell

The 2008 Fall Stewardship event features Mark Allan Powell, Professor of New Testament at Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio. This year's theme is: *Giving to God: The Bible's Good News About Living a Generous Life.* Mark will present two sessions during the event. His topics --"Cheerful Sacrifices" and "Duty & Delight" -- will engage the audience in discussion centered on stewardship as an expression of faith.

The event will take place from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 27, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lynnwood. Cost is $20 per person (includes lunch) and the 4th member of your congregation free. Registration deadline is Monday, September 15. To register, please visit the Calendar on the Synod's website (brochure with registration information is linked) or contact Janet Nelson at jnelson125@hotmail.com, or call at 206.624.0093 x103

Stewardship is not just a way of life; it's a good way of life. In fact, for many, it is a way to a better life...The Bible contains a great many promises regarding stewardship of time, talents and treasure, promises designed to inspire our confidence rather than arouse our guilt. ...We are in a relationship with a God who loves us, guides us, guards us, and blesses us.

The Future of Ministry: Adaptation or Extinction

The Future of Ministry: Adaptation or Extinction event will be held on Thursday, Feb. 12, 2009, from 7 to 9:30 p.m.; and on Friday, Feb. 13, 2009, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. with a banquet from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. The event will be held at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma.

Speakers are: Dr. Michael Kerr, Director of the Bowen Center for the Study of the Family in Washington D.C.; and Prof. John Haught, Senior Fellow, Science & Religion, Woodstock Theological Center at Georgetown University.

Registration costs are: $20 - Thursday evening presentation with Dr. Michael E. Kerr; $95 - Friday Symposium with Kerr and Prof. John Haught; $60 – Student Rate; and $35 - Friday evening banquet.

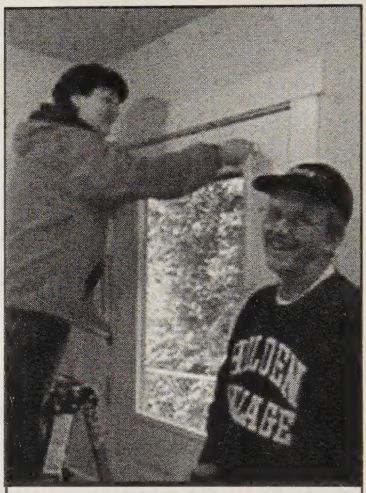
Registration will be available at: www.plu.edu/!crel. Full details are available now at: www.lutheransnw.org/calendar.

The event is sponsored by Consultation to Clergy and Pacific Lutheran University.

continued from page 1

Immanuel Hits Another Habitat Home Run

Humanity" home sites being built or renovated in Washington this year alone. In fact, the partnership between Thrivent Financial, Habitat for Humanity and many Lutheran congregations and volunteers will result in as many as 322 homes being built or renovated across 48 different states this year. These are 322 homes, and therefore 322 families, that Habitat for Humanity would not otherwise be able to help without the support of Thrivent Financial and many dedicated volunteers.



Immanuel Lutheran members Selima Carol Asman (on the ladder) and Wayne Hillard working hard on the house.

May 31 was Immanuel's day to make a difference and there was certainly no shortage of smiles and good humor as our wonderfully willing givers (a.k.a. volunteers) scrubbed floors, hung doors, hung blinds, dug trenches for a new fence, patched holes and touched up paint throughout the entire house. We learned some new skills and were able to hone some old ones as we laughed, told stories and got to know each other a little bit better.

And once again, just like in 2007, we left another Habitat Site Manager scratching his head and saying, "I can't believe how much you all got done today! We got more done today than I ever would have expected." And, believe me, we left that house in much better shape than we found it. Looks like Immanuel is beginning to establish a bit of a reputation.

Leadership Conference

The third annual NWWA Synod Leadership Conference is packed with useful skills to help leaders influence the health of their congregations. This year's theme is: *Mature Leaders Create a Healthier Church.* The event will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesday, August 27, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lynnwood.

Rev. Valinda Morse, Assistant to the Bishop, Southwestern Washington Synod, and Rev. Dr. John Beck will present the information using a systems model. Come for worship, learning and laughter--great snacks and door prizes. Paid and volunteer staff are invited to attend.

Conference fee is $40/ person. To register call Karen Dicken, Registrar, at 425-823-2727.

The Spirit

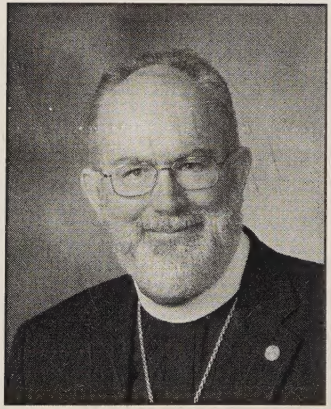
News for the congregations of the Northwest Washington Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Volume 25, Number 7

August 2008

Playing In The Water Of Baptism

by The Rev. Wm Chris Boerger, Bishop



On June 22 I arrived early for the reception honoring Kemp and Christine Segerhamer at Gethsemane. That meant that the morning worship was still in progress. I moved into a back pew and observed a very active young lady. I did not ask Jessica's age, but I would guess she is somewhere between 18 months and two years old. She and her mother we also sitting in a back pew.

It was fun to watch her move from the pew and explore the aisle. She did so with caution and time with a more direct approach to the water. Mom was quick to catch her and, surprisingly, Jessica did not verbalize a complaint, she just kept returning to the water.

After sharing in Communion, Jessica and her mother left before this game could continue. It struck me that all of God's children are called to play in the waters of God's grace in our baptism. We are to return often to this life giving water and to rejoice in its presence.

Jessica became for me a parable of our life in Christ. There are many distractions to our returning to the water. There are times we know that others around us would wish that we would not be so persistent in our baptismal play. There are even times we are lead away from our baptisms by "important" things in life.

Immanuel Hits Another Habitat Home Run

By Kirsten Griffin, member of Immanuel Lutheran in Seattle

On May 31 several volunteers from Immanuel Lutheran Church in Seattle joined forces with other Habitat for Humanity and AmeriCorps volunteers to help clean up and restore an old Habitat house to make it ready for a new Habitat family who will be calling this house "home" beginning in June.

Located in Seattle, in a neighborhood just east of Seattle University, this particular home is part of a Habitat success story. The renovation of the home comes at a time when the previous residents, also a Habitat family, had been offered new employment opportunities that allowed them to move into a slightly larger home and achieve even further independence.

Habitat was able to buy the property back and once the renovations were complete another family was offered that same wonderful Habitat "hand up" to a clean, safe and affordable place to call home. This home is also one of 13 "Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity" home sites being built or renovated in Washington this year alone. In fact, the partnership between Thrivent Financial, Habitat for Humanity and many Lutheran congregations and volunteers will result in as many as 322 homes being built or renovated across 48 different states this year. These are 322 homes, and therefore 322 families, that Habitat for Humanity would not otherwise be able to help.

May 31 was Immanuel's day to make a difference and there was certainly no shortage of smiles and good humor as our wonderfully willing givers (a.k.a. volunteers) scrubbed floors, hung doors, hung blinds, dug trenches for a new fence, patched holes and touched up paint throughout the entire house. We learned some new skills and were able to hone some old ones as we laughed, told stories and got to know each other a little bit better.

And once again, just like in 2007, we left another Habitat Site Manager scratching his head and saying, "I can't believe how much you all got done today! We got more done today than I ever would have expected." And, believe me, we left that house in much better shape than we found it. Looks like Immanuel is beginning to establish a bit of a reputation.

Cheerful Sacrifices

The 2008 Fall Stewardship event features Mark Allan Powell, Professor of New Testament at Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio. This year's theme is: *Giving to God: The Bible's Good News About Living a Generous*

in discussion centered on stewardship as an expression of faith.

The event will take place from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 27, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lynnwood. Cost is $20 per person (includes lunch) and the 4th member of your congregation free. Registration deadline is Monday, September 15. To register, please visit the Calendar on the Synod's website (brochure with registration information is linked) or contact Janet Nelson at jnelson125@hotmail.com, or call at 206.624.0093 x103

Stewardship is not just a way of life; it is a good way of life. The Bible contains a great many promises regarding stewardship.We are in a relationship with a God who loves us, guides us, guards us, and blesses us.

of synod congregations and organizations. Congregations are encouraged to copy ***The Spirit*** and include it in their own newsletters. ***The Spirit*** can be downloaded from the Synod website.

Northwest Washington Synod, ELCA
5519 Phinney Ave North
Seattle, WA 98103-5829
Telephone: 206-783-9292
Toll Free: 1-800-244-6997
Fax: 206-783-9833
Email: office@lutheransnw.org

Editor: Margit Peiffle
Email: margit@lutheransnw.org
Telephone: 425-299-6667
Website: www.lutheransnw.org

Information for the September 2008 issue of *The Spirit* is due to the Synod Office by Wednesday, July 30.

font is located in the aisle toward the back of the church and is a fountain that overflows its bowl. There had been a memorial service the day before so a large flower arrangement was on the floor in front of the font. At first I thought Jessica was moving to explore the flowers.

She looked at the flowers and moved on. Her goal was to play in the waters of the font as they cascaded down the sides of the font and into the collection area at its base. Mom was quick to retrieve her. And Jessica would return, each

in these waters because that is our calling in Christ.

Jessica had it right. The water in the font is for us. It is a sign of the pure grace of God in which we live. Yes, we have to be in regular conversation about the reality of our discipleship. Yes, there is a cost to this discipleship. The fact remains that we are drawn to the waters of baptism and there we receive the free gift of life. Let's join Jessica in playing in the water.

Lutheran Disaster Response: Floods, tornadoes, fires and other natural disasters have left indelible marks on communities and people in the past few months. The ELCA is responding. In addition to prayers, please consider giving to support the long-term response through Lutheran Disaster Relief. Gifts designated for a specific disaster, for example "Flooding—United States",

Pastors Make Changes

Dorcas Wang concluded a 22 month interim associate position at Edmonds Lutheran Church and is heading off to China to serve the church there. She is pictured here with the Rev. Michael Ross, lead pastor (far right) and Malcolm McCallum, Congregation President (far left).

(left to right) The Rev. Kemp Segerhammer and his wife Christine with children Brita and Jacob on his last Sunday (June 22) at Gethsemane. Pastor Segerhammer and Christine are returning to First Lutheran Church in Palo Alto, Calif. Members of Gethsemane continue to make plans to build and enlarge the ministry in the downtown neighborhood even as they seek a new pastor. (You can read an article about the building plans in the July supplement to The Lutheran magazine at www.lutheransnw.org/publications.) Rev. Maynard Atik is serving as the interim pastor.

The Rev. Carl Gabrielson with his wife, Ruth, stand at the baptismal font following his final worship service at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Arlington on June 29. Pastor Carl is retiring. The worship service included a liturgy of ending—God Speed. After the worship service congregational members gave Carl, Ruth and their family a festive send off thanking Carl for his 12 years of pastoral leadership in Arlington. Rev. Marillyn Schultz Rothermel is serving as the interim pastor.

State Advocate's Corner

by Manda Truchinski

Lutheran Public Policy Office of Washington State Seminary Intern

www.lppowa.org
mtruchinski@lcsnw.org
206-464-4133

Although it might be summer, LPPO is still in full swing. This August we'll be gaining three new staff persons: Kirstin Docken will be LPPO's new Administrator; Alexis Lair will be our Assistant for Outreach, Communications and Programming; and Kristi Kleinbeck will be the new seminary intern.

Current staffers David Coombs and myself, Manda Truchinski, will be leaving in August. We encourage you to call the office (206-464-4133) and say hello to the new staffers. The new staffers will be equipped and ready to help you engage in advocacy.

We at LPPO have a renewed sense of mission to partner with congregations and equip them for faithful civic participation. We've launched a new campaign called *Advocating Congregations* that encourages congregations to find their own advocating voices. Every congregation in Washington State received a letter introducing *Advocating Congregations* and we're not only excited to talk to you about it, but we're eager to walk with you through the process and to lend help and resources wherever we can. So please, if you haven't heard from us yet, don't hesitate to call, write or visit us on the web at www.lppowa.org.

Update

Board of Pensions

- **2009 contribution rates**—ELCA health plan contribution rates for 2009 will be announced in August after approval by their board of trustees. Our online Contribution amounts calculator (https://www.elcabop.org/Home/Calculators/ContributionAmounts.aspx) will also be updated to reflect 2009 rates at this time.
- **Financial well-being added to the Wholeness Wheel**—Financial well-being is now part of the Wholeness Wheel. The introduction of financial well-being emphasizes the importance stewardship has on well-being — not just of your physical resources but also your financial resources, and encourages an exploration of what financial well-being means in our own lives. In the coming months, you and your employees will see more about financial well-being and have opportunities to learn more about living well in this important aspect of your life. View the new Wholeness Wheel at https://www.elcabop.org/LiveWell/Wholenesswheel.aspx.

Artist Call

www.faithseattle.org
206-523-9636

Faith Lutheran in Seattle seeks an artist to create a site-specific sculptural artwork on a sanctuary wall in its church building. The artist will receive a commission of $10,000 inclusive of all costs to design, fabricate and install the work. Application deadline is Sept 19, 2008.

News and Notes

- **Reaching Beyond Our Congregation**
  - A group of 20 people from **Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran in Issaquah** will be travelling to Tecate, Mexico, to continue a seven year tradition where they will be building homes.
  - The 2008 delegation to the Ailanga Lutheran Junior Seminary in Tanzania left on July 14. The group includes members from **University Lutheran, Maple Leaf Lutheran, Faith Lutheran (all located in Seattle)**. Ten youth and five adults will represent their congregations on this trip.
  - **Holy Spirit Lutheran in Kirkland** is sending their fifth mission team to the Gulf Coast in July. They are going to work with Camp Victor Ministries, operated by Christus Victor Lutheran Church in Ocean Springs, MS. The congregation has also sent volunteers to the Boistfor Valley in Southwestern Washington almost every Saturday since the late December flooding in 2007.
  - **Kent Lutheran in Kent** is also sending a team to New Orleans in July. This is the congregation's third trip to New Orleans where they work with St. John #5 Church.
  - **Wooden Cross Lutheran in Woodinville** will be participating in the Yakima Habitat Project in July. The team includes high school yout h, graduating seniors and adults.
  - **Our Savior Lutheran in Issaquah** will be working on two Habitat homes at Snoqualmie Rdige from June through July. Our Savior's is working on this project with other Eastside Lutheran congregations.
  - **Bethel Lutheran of Shoreline** is sendng youth to "Rancho el Refugio", south of Ensenada, Mexico. Their ministry is to help the congregation put on a VBS program.
- **Bea Williams, a member of Prince of Peace Lutheran in Shoreline** turned 104 years old June 4. Bea's photo and name appears in the June issue of The Lutheran on page 104.
- Last year there were 590 school age children living in shelters in South King County without means to purchase school supplies. This year **Zion Lutheran in Kent** is holding a Christmas in July Giving Tree that will be decked out in red, white and blue tags with items needed for the students. And, **First Lutheran Church in Bothell** is partnering with Northshore School District to collect back-to-school supplies for the Backpacks for Kids Campaign.
- The organ at **Ballard First Lutheran in Ballard** was used to introduce the pipe organ to young musicians at the Pipe Organ Encounter in Seattle in July.

Within Our Family

To Keep In Our Prayers...

Within Our Family depends upon you—not only for prayers, but also for your prayer requests. Contact the synod office with any additions or changes to this column at office@lutheransnw.org or 206-783-9292, 1-800-244-6997 (toll free). This newsletter is shared among many people. The synod tries to limit personal information on the prayer list. Please consider contacting those on this list to let them know that you are holding them in your prayers.

We continue to hold in our prayers:

† **Paul Anderson, Associate in Ministry**
† **Howard Boerger, father of Bishop Chris Boerger**
† **The Rev. John Ericksen and his wife, Marita**
† **Paula Ingebritson, wife of Pastor Joel Ingebritson**
† **Dick Lee, husband of Erma Lee, Associate in Ministry (ret.)**
† **Arlett Nordsletten, widow of Pastor Olin Nordsletten**
† **The Rev. Roger Patrow (ret.)**
† **The Rev. Phil Petrasek, pastor at Christ in Ferndale, and his wife**
† **The Rev. Norris Stoa (ret.)**
† **The Rev. Malcolm Unseth (ret.)**
† **The Rev. Dick Wendt (ret.)**
† **Boots Winterstein**
† **The Rev. Paul Wuest**

We pray for:

† **The Rev. Mikkel Hustad**, pastor at St. Peter's Lutheran in Clinton, was hospitalized in June from complications of the flu. He is finally improving. He is at home and on IV antibiotics to counteract infection in his leg with restrictions on activity until the infection is gone. Cards may be sent to: St Peter's Lutheran Church, PO Box 69, Clinton WA 98236-0069.

† **Sue Hermansen, wife of the Rev. Paul Hermansen** (Immanuel, Centralia) had surgery to remove a bone spur in her foot. They are trying to get their house sold, as well, to move the family from North Bend to Centralia. Cards may be sent to: Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1209 N Scheuber Rd, Centralia WA 98531.

† **Elaine Harrison, Synod Relations Administrator** at the synod office, has been ill for nearly three weeks, with complications from medication following an initial bout of flu. Cards may be sent to the synod office at:5519 Phinney Ave N, Seattle WA 98103.

† **Allison Ramsey, Office Staff person for the Southwestern Washington Synod**, had surgery in early July to fuse her neck. The surgery was successful and Allison will now have many weeks of immobilization and healing before she can return to work. Cards may be sent to her care of the Southwestern Washington Synod office, 410 – 121st St S, Tacoma WA 98444-5218.

† **The Rev. Jeff Driscoll,** Peace Lutheran in Silvana, as he heals from pneumonia. Cards may be sent to: Peace Lutheran Church, PO Box 100, Silvana, WA 98287.

continued on page 13

continued from page 12

Within Our Family

† **The Rev. Linda Smith's** (Ocean Park Lutheran in Ocean Park, Wash) grandson Nick has been diagnosed with AML Leukemia. Nick had a brain tumor when he was 4 years old, he is now 11. He has started chemo and will need a bone marrow transplant after the chemo. Pastor Linda Smith served in this synod. Cards may be sent to her at: Ocean Park Lutheran Church, PO Box 22, Ocean Park, WA 98640.

† **Brelin, daughter-in-law of the Rev. Jim Rismiller,** pastor at Lord of Life Lutheran in Renton, was recently hospitalized with ongoing health problems. Please keep Brelin and her family in prayer. Cards may be sent to her at: 586 – 241st Lane SE, Sammamish WA 98074

† **The Rev. Norm Orth (ret.)** had surgery in early July for diverticulitis. Norm served at Maple Leaf Lutheran in Seattle, Sammamish Hills Lutherean in Sammamish and Prince of Peace in Seattle, First of Richmond Beach, Host Pastor at Elbe Historical Church in SW WA Synod and Regional Dir. of American Missions for ALC. You may send cards to: 1305 N. Highlands Pkwy #A-1, Tacoma, WA 98406.

Prayers of Thanksgiving

† **The Reverends Susan and Red Burchfield** on the birth of their grandson, Maxwell Marion James Hampson, who was born on June 15. Congrats to parents Megan and Joe Hampson and brother Leif.

Let Justice Roll

Sponsored by Trinity Lutheran College, Holden Village, Lutheran Peace Fellowship, Lutheran Public Policy Office and Earth Ministry.

Let Justice Roll will be held Saturday, Oct. 11 through Monday, Oct. 13, at Holden Village. This year's theme is: *Practicing our Faith in the Salmon Nation.*

Practicing our Faith in the Salmon Nation is a project that was convened by Dr. Patricia Killen and Dr. Samuel Torvend of Pacific Lutheran University. They gathered eight ELCA clergy to talk about the ways life in the Pacific Northwest shapes our lives in the Christian faith.

Using this theme at the *Let Justice Roll* event will provide presentations sparking lively conversations around the practices of sustainability, relationships and creation. Sustainability is meant in this context to include relationships between the environment, communities, businesses, people, friends, neighbors and healthy care of self.

This annual event is intended to reach high school students interested in social, economic, political, and environmental justice issues. Its unique focus is meant to feed, support, and stimulate those young people who have a special interest in the issues of peace, justice, and care of creation. Because of the fall date, space is limited, so we encourage you to limit your group to no more that 5 participants.

Fall Bishop Convo

The Northwest Washington Synod Bishop's Convocation will be held Sunday, Oct. 19, through Tuesday, Oct 21, at Harrison Hot Springs Resort and Spa in British Columbia.

This year's speaker is the Reverend Doctor Barbara Rossing from the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago (LSTC). She is the professor of New Testament. Ordained in 1982, she served as pastor of a congregation in Minnesota, director for Global Mission Interpretation for the American Lutheran Church, pastor at Holden Village Retreat Center, Chelan and chaplain at Harvard University Divinity School.

Rossing is the author of: *The Rapture Exposed: The Message of Hope in the Book of Revelation* (Basic Books, 2004), a critique of fundamentalist "Left Behind" theology; plus many other publications.

Cost is $310 double occupancy; $510 single occupancy; $620 for couples. Registration deadline is September 16, 2008. Remember, a passport is required to return to the U.S.

Northwest Washington Synod Transitions

	Location/Event	Effective Date
Calls Accepted		
April L. Boyden, Associate in Ministry	Christ the Servant, Bellingham	6/11/2008
Kemp Segerhammer	Sierra Pacific Synod	7/1/2008
Daniel Sorensen	Prince of Peace, Seatac	9/7/2008
Jianhong Rowena Wang	St. Matthew, Renton	6/22/2008
Mike Guoyi Wang	St. Matthew, Renton	6/22/2008
Installations		
April L Boyden, Associate in Ministry	Christ the Servant, Bellingham	6/15/2008
Ordinations/Commissionings/Consecrations		
Daniel Sorensen	Holy Trinity Lutheran, Chicago	8/9/2008
Jianhong Rowena Wang	St. Matthew, Renton	6/22/2008
Mike Guoyi Wang	St. Matthew, Renton	6/22/2008
Retirements		
Carl Gabrielson	Our Saviour, Arlington	7/1/2008
Randy Grauer	Christ the Servant, Bellingham	10/1/2008
Stanley Jacobson	Immanuel, Everson	6/1/2008
Mark Johnson	First Evangelical, Mount Vernon	9/1/2008
Lowell Stime	Trinity Lutheran College, Issaquah	8/1/2008
Transfers In/Out of Synod		
April Boyden, Associate in Ministry	Southestern Texas Synod	6/1/2008
Robert C. Elliott	Oregon Synod	6/18/2008
Kemp Segerhammer	Sierra Pacific Synod	7/1/2008

Editor's Note: For the most up-to-date listing of transitions and mobility please visit our website at www.lutheransnw.org and click on Leadership. That website page is updated weekly, when necessary.

Transitions can be found on page 14

Northwest Washington Synod Mobility

In Call Process	Position	Status	Current Pastor, Interim Pastor, or Supply Pastor
Arlington, Our Saviour	pr	NV	Marillyn Schultz Rothermel, Interim
Bainbridge Island, Bethany	PR	NV	Andrew Yee, Co-Pastor; Dennis Schaffert, Interim Co-Pastor
Bothell, First Evangelical	PR	TR	Doug Stensby, Interim
Bothell, Light of the Cross	PR	TR	Cindy Salo, Interim
Burlington, Burlington	PR	TR	Michael Swain, Interim
Edmonds, Edmonds	A	TR	Michael Ross, Pastor;
Everett, Trinity	PR	C	Chris Anderson, Interim
Everett, Zion	PR	TR	Mitch Watney, Supply
Everson, Immanuel	PR	NV	Interim Pending
Marysville, Bethlehem	PR	I	Interim Pending
Mercer Island, Holy Trinity	PR	P	Kathleen Anderson, Interim
Mount Vernon, Salem	A/SP	TR	Kevin Forquer, Pastor
North Bend, Mount Si	PR	TR	Tim Wolbrecht, Interim
Seattle, Crown	PR	TR	Dan Selmann, Interim
Seattle, Faith	A/SP	I	Nancy Winder, Pastor
Seattle, Gethsemane	PR	NV	Interim Pending
Seattle, Luther Memorial	PR	TR	Karen Hanson, Interim
Seattle, St. Paul's of Shorewood	PR	TR	Supply

Mobility Position Key:

PR = Pastor
A = Associate
AIM = Associate in Ministry
DM = Diaconal Minister
A/SP = Associate with Special Emphasis contact Synod Office)

Mobility Status Key:

I = Interviewing
C = Calling
NV = New Vacancy
V = Vacancy
SC = Synod Call
TR = Transition process
P = Profile presented (receiving nominations)
TR/DO = Div for Outreach Transformation Process

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Northwest Washington Synod
5519 Phinney Avenue North
Seattle, WA 98103-5299

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 1337
Seattle, WA

Return Service Requested

Soundings
August 2008

Graduate Theological Union
2400 Ridge Rd
Berkley CA 94709-1212